



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 29 2008

CSX
District
780 letter

Mr. Greg Lee
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

and

Mr. Doug Jones
Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection
Twin Towers Office Building
2600 Blair Stone Road (MS 4505)
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2400

Subject: Florida Smelting Company Buffalo Avenue (FSC Buffalo) Site
Jacksonville, Florida

Dear Mr. Lee and Mr. Jones:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Emergency Response and Removal Branch (ERRB) conducted a Removal Site Evaluation (RSE) at the above referenced site for potential removal action eligibility under the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Based on the information collected during the RSE, the On Scene Coordinator (OSC) recommends this site be given a no further action for removal eligibility under EPA's Superfund Removal Program. (See enclosed RSE memo)

This determination does not preclude any other investigation or response action by other parties which may still be appropriate for this site. Should site conditions change or additional information become available, ERRB will re-evaluate this site as necessary.

Should you have any questions concerning ERRB's determination, please contact Leonardo Ceron, OSC at (404) 562-9129, or Jim McGuire, Chief of Removal Operations Section, at (404) 562-8911.

Sincerely,

A. Shane Hitchcock, Chief
Emergency Response & Removal Branch

Enclosure

cc: Dawn Taylor, Tony Moore, Jim McGuire, Leonardo Ceron, Kerri Sanders

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**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region IV
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2008

From: Leonardo Ceron, OSC

To: Timothy Neal, EPA Region 4

Jim McGuire, ERRB

Subject: FSC Buffalo Site Removal Site Evaluation
Florida Smelting Company Buffalo Avenue Site
5800 Buffalo Avenue, Jacksonville, FL
Latitude: 30.3772
Longitude: -81.6408

POLREP No.:	1	Site #:	
Reporting Period:		D.O. #:	
Start Date:		Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:		Response Type:	Time-Critical
Completion Date:		NPL Status:	
CERCLIS ID #:	FLN000407555	Incident Category:	Removal Assessment
RCRIS ID #:		Contract #	

Site Description

The Florida Smelting Company, (FSC Buffalo) Site, is located on Buffalo Avenue in Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, EPA Identification (ID) No. FLN000407555. The Site was evaluated based on a Preliminary Assessment /Site Inspection Report (PA/SI) conducted through the START contract for EPA in September 1995.

FSC began operations at the Buffalo Avenue location in 1950 and continued until around 1960. The geographic coordinates are 30° 22' 38" North latitude and 81° 38' 27" West longitude. The building is no longer present at this location and it is unclear what types of smelting operations (if any) were performed at the facility. Waste storage and disposal practices during smelting operations are unknown. The former FSC location is believed to exist primarily on a Seaboard Coastline Railroad Company (Seaboard) parcel of property, adjacent to the northwest corner of a bulk fuel depot owned by Support Terminals Operating Partnership LP. Seaboard is owned by CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSX). All subsequent references to the property will list CSX as the property owner.

No site-specific regulatory or release history has been identified. The site was identified in a study of former lead smelting facilities that was published in the American Journal of Public Health and reported by ABC News. The study identified approximately 430 former lead smelting sites that may contain potentially hazardous soil lead levels and are "unrecognized in the United States". No environmental sampling has occurred on or near site prior to this current investigation.

The site currently exists in an industrialized area as a small, sandy strip of land, on a CSX parcel of property, immediately adjacent to the northwest corner of a bulk fuel depot owned by Support Terminals Operating Partnership LP. No buildings or other structures currently exist on site. Two railroad tracks traverse through the former site; a fenced field that previously housed bulk fuel

tanks exists to the north, Evergreen Avenue is to the east, Buffalo Avenue lies to the west, and the Support Terminals facility lies to the south.

Vegetation is limited over most of the site due to the sandy soil type. No runoff routes were identified during sampling activities, and all rainfall likely percolates directly into the sandy soil. Residential areas exist to the north and south, approximately 0.25 mile from the site.

Current Activities

Nineteen surface soil samples were collected from the approximate location of the former FSC Buffalo operation, as well as surrounding locations in order to delineate potential migration. One background sample was collected from approximately 250 feet west of the site. Four subsurface samples were collected from the four corners of the approximate location of the FSC Buffalo building. A subsurface sample was also collected from the background location. All sample collection activities and procedures were performed in accordance with the November 2001 USEPA Region 4, Environmental Investigations Standard Operating Procedures and Quality Assurance Manual (EISOPQAM).

Analytical results revealed several contaminants in both surface and subsurface soil at FSC Buffalo. The contaminants of greatest concern that were considered site attributable were lead. The highest detection of lead [14,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg)] was identified in surface soil sample BUF-04-SS, located in the southwest corner of the former FSC Buffalo operation building. Lead (840 mg/kg) was also detected in the subsurface sample at this location (-04-SB). Unexpectedly, lead was detected in sample -19-SS at 2,000 mg/kg, collected from inside the gated, grassy area owned by Support Terminals. Based on the sampling results and pattern of these samples, it is not likely that lead has migrated to the -19-SS location as a result of FSC Buffalo operations, and contamination in that sample was not considered site attributable.

The surface water migration pathway is of minimal concern at FSC Buffalo and was not evaluated. Surface water samples were not collected during the sampling investigation. FSC Buffalo has no significant surface water drainage features. Based on the topography, storm water does not appear to runoff from the site.

The air migration pathway is of minimal concern at FSC Buffalo as no air samples have ever been collected during smelting operations and these operations no longer occur on site. Although the air pathway may have been a threat during smelting operations over 40 years ago, the air pathway was not sampled or evaluated.

Although lead smelting activities may have occurred at the site, the identification of only one lead concentration exceeding its guidance value fails to indicate wide spread lead contamination. This singularly high result likely suggests that a more specific local source (dumped battery) may have been the source of the one high lead detection rather than an industrial smelting operation.

Planned Removal Actions

Based on a review of the PA/SI, the FSC Buffalo Site should be assigned no further action for conducting a time-critical removal action. The site does not pose an immediate threat to the public health or welfare or the environment because of the reasons stated above

Next Steps

Based upon review of the data, it does not appear that a time critical removal action is necessary at

this time.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

www.epaosc.net/FSCBuffalo

H. B. Neal 9/25/08
 RSE Coord.
JN 9/26/08